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Bulk Power Services

The Honorable Spencer Abraham
Secretary of Energy
Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As a representative of our company, Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) I appreciate this opportunity to express my views based upon scientific evidence on the suitability of Yucca Mountain as a high level waste repository. Over the coming months you will face the significant task of evaluating the information developed in the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE).

PNM supports the process being used to determine the suitability of Yucca Mountain for use as a high level waste repository. The Department of Energy has spent 20 years, and over \$6 billion using existing scientific knowledge and developing new methods to determine whether storage of used commercial nuclear fuel and other nuclear by-products at the site will remain safe for the 10,000 year design life of the project. The scientists have addressed all concerns raised by parties objecting to the site. As I view the documents the PSSE finds that it is reasonable to construct a repository at the site.

Based on the extensive scientific inquiry into the suitability of the site, the confidence of the designers that the waste can be safely stored, and the lack of any credible evidence of harm to either nearby people, or the environment, the Secretary should recommend the site to the President.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Goodman
Vice President Power Production

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1